

Remarks/Arguments:

The applicant would like to thank the examiner for the telephonic interview on June 23, 2008, in which the claims and the prior art were discussed.

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Final Office Action mailed May 20, 2008.

Claims 1-11 and 13-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soares et al. (VersionWeb: A Tool for Helping Web page Version Control) and Chaudri et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,861).

Claims 1, 11 and 21 have been amended to add the feature that “the difference engine uses rules that are applied at different stages to determine the propagation of a component of the components, the stages include a first stage that applies a first rule if the component is detected in the source environment, a second stage that applies a second rule if the component is detected in the destination environment, a third stage that applies a third rule if the component is modified in the source environment, a fourth stage that applies a fourth rule if the component is modified in the destination environment, a fifth stage that applies a fifth rule if the component is new in the source environment, and a sixth stage that applies a sixth rule if the component is new in the destination environment”. This feature is supported by Figure 2 of the present invention’s specification. This feature is not shown or made obvious by the cited prior art.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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